NOTE XVII.

A NEW SPECIES OF THE STAPHYLINID GENUS TRYGAEUS

DESCRIBED BY

D. SHARP.

Trygaeus javanicus, n. sp.

Niger, nitidus, convexus, antennarum apice ferrugineo, tarsis rufis; prothorace inaequali, dense fortiterque punctato; elytris profunde sulcatis, interstitiis convexis, parum latis. — Long. 6 millim.

Head with the upper surface somewhat uneven, rather closely and finely, but irregularly, punctate, scarcely shining. Antennae reaching backwards slightly beyond the base of the thorax; piceous-black, at the base with five joints free from sensitive pubescence and therefore somewhat shining; the joints from this to the extremity are somewhat broader, the penultimate joint being scarcely so long as broad, they are densely pubescent, and the terminal joint — as also the apex of that preceding it — is ferruginous. The thorax is strongly transverse, and very convex in the transverse direction; it is strongly narrowed in front, the sides are somewhat irregular in outline, and are a little rounded and very slightly contracted behind near the hind angles; the base is deeply sinuate on each side of the middle, and also less deeply emarginate in the middle in front of the scutellum; the surface is uneven, bearing several rather indefinite impressions, it is glabrous, and is rendered rough by a deep, coarse punctuation which is somewhat irregularly distributed, the punctures being in some places nearly confluent;

the lateral raised margin ceases entirely at about one-third of the length in front of the base. The scutellum is large and quite smooth and shining. The elytra are scarcely twice as long as the thorax; they are very deeply sulcate, the interstices being strongly elevated and rather narrow, the grooves are somewhat indistinctly crenate. The legs are piceous-black, the sulcation of the tibiae is very distinct.

One specimen found on Mount Poentjak in West Java by Mr. J. D. Pasteur, and belonging to the Leyden Museum.

This species is somewhat closely allied to *T. princeps* m. 1) but is narrower, and is more densely sculptured, has deeper sulci on the elytra, with narrower interstices; the outline of the prothorax is more irregular, and its sides are less explanate.

Although an insect of small size, the discovery of this species of *Trygaeus* in the island of Java is of considerable interest, as the genus is a very peculiar one, and hitherto has only been found in Japan, where it is represented by a single species. The idea seems to be prevalent in many minds that the insect-fauna of Japan is more similar to that of the Palaearctic region than to that of the Oriental region. I am myself inclined to think that this will not prove to be truly the case, and that when we know as much of the fauna of the east as we do of that of Europe, the insects of Japan will be found to belong in greater part to the former fauna.

Cambridge, 12th February 1892.

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1) Trans. Ent. Soc. London, 1874, p. 420. — Ann. and Mag. of Nat. Hist. (6) III, 1889, p. 467. — Aid Ident. Ins. Pl. 133, fig. 3.